

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude on this, Mexico's two hundred and first anniversary of independence, by vowing a renewed commitment between the United States and Mexico as both of our nations continue to confront the global issues of our time. I call upon my fellow Members of Congress to join me in celebrating Mexican Independence Day in honor of all the Mexican immigrants and descendants, not only in my district, but throughout this great nation and the world. Viva Mexico and may God and the Virgin of Guadalupe bless The United Mexican States and the United States of America.

TAIWAN'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
ITS FOUNDING

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, October 10th of this year marks the 100th anniversary of Taiwan, the Republic of China. Taiwan has been an important contributor towards economic and political security in Asia for decades, and continues to be a major trading partner with the United States. Indeed, Taiwan is the ninth largest trading partner of the United States and the sixth largest agricultural market for products grown and produced here in the United States.

Taiwan continues to benefit from self-governance and free-elections, and its open society and democracy allows for innovation and growth that puts it on a competitive footing with the most powerful and largest countries in the world.

Taiwan and the United States uphold a peaceful affiliation through trade agreements and meaningful personal relationships. I enjoyed a trip to Taiwan when I was a state legislator, and it is a beautiful country with a vibrant culture.

Congratulations to the people of Taiwan and President Ma Ying-jeou on its 100th anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND GENEROSITY OF
LEROY AND TERESA ROBINSON

HON. LARRY KISSELL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true, dedicated leader in my state and in my local community of Montgomery County, North Carolina. Leroy Robinson grew up in Candor, North Carolina, just miles from my home. He graduated from what was then-known as Candor High School in 1939, and went on to my alma mater of Wake Forest University. After proudly serving our nation in World War II, Robinson returned home to North Carolina and began working for Belk, a local family owned department store that began in my district in Monroe, North Carolina. After years as a local business and community leader, Robinson officially retired from Belk in 1988 after 37 years of service with the company, only to continue on as an advisor and counsel through 1995.

In 1995, Robinson and his late wife Teresa reached out to Wake Forest with hopes of setting up a scholarship fund for local students to attend Wake Forest, which is ranked 25th best university in the nation by US News and World Report. Through his hard work to open new doors to his own success in life, he now wanted to help pave a path for others just like him to achieve all that they can, with help from the community that raised them. It was Robinson's belief that if children had the opportunity to get a good education, they'd return home to Montgomery County and make their community a better place.

After my time at Wake Forest, I too returned home, working in textiles for over 27 years before I began teaching high school social studies at both West and East Montgomery High Schools. I have seen first-hand the benefits that the Robinson Scholarship has provided for both Montgomery County and Wake Forest University. The generosity of Leroy Robinson has continued to open new doors of opportunity for students throughout my community, and on behalf of the people of Montgomery County, I know that we will never have the proper words to adequately thank Leroy for all he has done, and continues to do.

Mr. Speaker, it is with complete admiration and appreciation that I rise today to speak of the kindness and generosity with which Leroy and Teresa Robinson have continued to bless our part of the world. His selflessness and dedication to helping those who come after him is a testament to the promise and goal that many of us embrace: to leave the world a better place than it was when we arrived. Leroy Robinson has served as a shining example of this generosity, and his gift continues to give to the students of my community.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in prayer for the health and well-being of Leroy Robinson, an asset to the people of Montgomery County, of North Carolina, and of our nation. Although sadly she is no longer with us, I also ask that we remember Teresa Robinson and her generous contributions as well.

HONORING U.S. MARINE LANCE
CORPORAL GIUSEPPE "JOE" LETO

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Giuseppe "Joe" Leto.

Joe was a resident of New Milford, Connecticut, where he attended Canterbury High School for four years. As his family and friends describe him, Joe was a passionate member of the school wrestling team who enjoyed spending time with his friends. Following his graduation, he went on to attend Western New England College in Springfield, Massachusetts to study business. In 1998, he decided to serve his country by joining the U.S. Marine Corps. After going through boot camp on Paris Island, he reported to Camp Lejeune in North Carolina for 16 weeks of training. Tragically, Joe died during a conditioning hike in his third week at Camp Lejeune at the age of 21.

Following Joe's death, his mother, Mrs. Mimi Leto established the Joe Leto Scholar-

ship for the students at Canterbury High School. When community support for the Leto family was expressed in an outpouring of flowers, Joe's former wrestling coach, Joe Wilson suggested that Mrs. Leto ask the community to participate in a fundraiser to support a scholarship in Joe's memory.

The community's response was enthusiastic. Though originally intended to be a one-time event, the "Run for Joe" has become a tradition in New Milford. Participants have raised a total of over \$150,000 in support of Joe's scholarship since the very first run. October 9, 2011 marks the 13th Annual "Run for Joe" to raise money for the Joe Leto Scholarship Fund. This year, in honor of the "Run for Joe" and in honor of Joe's memory, a flag will be flown at half staff on the day of the event at the Connecticut state Capitol.

In reflection of the premature loss of a young, promising U.S. Marine and the sense of community he has inspired in the town of New Milford, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring the life of Lance Corporal Giuseppe Leto, and the contributions his family and community have made in his memory to the students at Canterbury High School.

PALESTINIAN BID FOR U.N.
RECOGNITION

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, to those who question the United States' expression of solidarity with Israel in the face of the recent Palestinian bid for U.N. recognition, the answer is that it is in America's interest to stand strong with its friend and ally.

There is a chorus of political interests arguing that U.N. recognition is precisely the game-changing move needed to push forward stalled Mid-East talks. But completely up-ending the long agreed-upon structure of direct negotiations would defeat all interests. For those Palestinians who desire peace, it would unfairly heighten expectations that the United Nations offers some new path to an independent state with defined territorial borders. Most alarmingly, U.N. recognition of Palestinian statehood would encourage Israel's traditional foes, as well as emerging new ones, to abandon their grudging acceptance of the direct negotiation paradigm in favor of a coordinated assault on Israel's interests and security. That, in turn, will put America's interests at risk.

U.S. support for Israel has never been more important than it is now. The winds of the Arab Spring blowing from Tunisia to Syria are dramatically altering the dynamics of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the wider region. Our ally's familiar antagonists are seizing on the region's new populism to stir up anti-Israel sentiment. In recent days, Israeli diplomats had to be rescued (with U.S. help) from their embassy in Cairo when angry protesters breached the grounds. Iran is as belligerent as ever and its potential to pose an existential threat to Israel cannot be underestimated.

It is expected that countries like Iran would seek to hijack the sentiment of the Arab

Spring, but who would have predicted that NATO member Turkey, a country that long enjoyed a strong military and economic relationship with Israel, would turn against its erstwhile ally with such ferocity? Turkish hostility towards Israel goes well beyond the purported settling of a score over the Gaza Flotilla incident. It appears calculated to establish Turkey's strategic dominance of the Eastern Mediterranean by putting pressure on the Israeli-American alliance. One important way for the United States to discourage this kind of adventurism in the region is to continue to affirm its unbreakable bond with the State of Israel.

TRIBUTE TO THE
MEDITERRANEAN QUARTERLY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Mediterranean Quarterly, a journal of global issues published by Duke University Press in the late in 1980s. Mediterranean Quarterly is edited by Dr. Nikolaos A. Stavrou (Professor Emeritus of International Affairs, Howard University), a true believer in intellectual honesty, professional integrity, and fair play. The Journal is unique in many ways, and has made its mark in the policymaking world and global academy.

Dr. Stavrou ensured that thinkers from all lit-
toral states as well as academic experts in the U.S. have an open and uncensored forum to present and debate ideas. Mediterranean Quarterly has no agenda to promote other than the search for truth without fear or favor. But more importantly, it has made a point to open its pages to prominent African leaders to address issues in true Mediterranean spirit of respect for human dignity.

Over the years, I had the privilege of joining a stellar list of contributors, among them former President Jimmy Carter, former UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the Presidents of Turkey and Croatia, President Salva Kiir of South Sudan, and a long list of academics, foreign ministers, prime ministers and prominent diplomats.

I consider it my distinct honor to have published on a wide range of issues, including Africa, the Cyprus crisis and other issues. The Mediterranean Quarterly is a forum for thinkers and not a place for waging an ideological campaign.

HONORING THE REVEREND
JOSEPH E. LOWERY

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, the Reverend Joseph E. Lowery, an irreplaceable organizer in the American Civil Rights Movement and a leader who marched with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to overturn discrimination in voting rights and other injustices, celebrates his 90th birthday today. It is only right that I honor this man who made my ascension possible.

Just 54 years ago, in a meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, Rev. Lowery helped form the Southern Christian Leadership Conference alongside Dr. King, Rev. Ralph Abernathy, and New Orleans' own Rev. Dr. Simmie Lee Harvey and Rev. Abraham Lincoln "A. L." Davis—among other civil rights leaders. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference, known as the SCLC, was largely known for its non-violent protests. It was Rev. Lowery himself who organized the 1965 Selma to Montgomery March that eventually led to the passage of the historic Voting Rights Act. You'll remember that the Voting Rights Act finally guaranteed Black Americans the right to vote—free from intimidation, poll taxes, and other rules and laws designed to disenfranchise us. Rev. Lowery served as the president of the SCLC from 1977–1997 and revitalized it through his outspoken nature and distinct leadership style.

Rev. Lowery continues to fight social injustice even today at the young age of 90. For his work, he's received numerous awards including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor; the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Phoenix Award; the Martin Luther King Center Peace Award; the NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award; and the Fred L. Shuttlesworth Human Rights Award from the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. Rev. Lowery has also received several honorary doctorates from colleges and universities including, Dillard University, Morehouse College, Alabama State University, University of Alabama in Huntsville, and Emory University.

While delivering the benediction at the 2009 presidential inauguration of President Obama, Rev. Lowery reminded us all "that in the complex arena of human relationships, we should make choices on the side of love, not hate; on the side of inclusion, not exclusion; and tolerance, not intolerance." It is evident that this principle has been a driving force in every area of Rev. Lowery's life for the last 90 years. His unwavering dedication to equality for all people has made this country a better place for people of all races and ethnicities.

As we celebrate the life of Rev. Lowery today, we must also pause to remember the legacy of another civil rights leader, Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth. Rev. Shuttlesworth died yesterday at the age of 89 after fighting for racial equality alongside Rev. Lowery for more than 50 years. He was an American hero whose fight for civil rights is emblematic of the perseverance, compassion, and faith that make us American. He was a legend during the movement and time has only cemented his place in history as a champion of equality. He was beaten, threatened, and his family was attacked. Nonetheless, he never wavered from his commitment to American civil rights. My achievements have been possible because I stand on his shoulders, Rev. Lowery's shoulders, and those of other freedom fighters. Dr. King once referred to Rev. Shuttlesworth as "one of the nation's most courageous freedom fighters." It is because of this courage that his legacy will live on for many generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Rev. Joseph Lowery a happy and blessed 90th birthday. As Rev. Lowery once wrote of Dr. King, "To appropriately celebrate . . . we must honor both the man and the movement. To ennoble the man and ig-

nore the movement is to do injustice to both. We must not let the spirit of the movement be overcome with sentimental ceremonies that omit the sacramental nature of the struggle. Ceremonies end with the benediction while sacraments begin with the benediction. Ceremony is like putting a ring on her finger at the wedding. Sacrament is ringing her life with love and joy ever after."

CONGRATULATIONS TO BEN AND
JENNIFER MOORE FOR WINNING
TENNESSEE FARM BUREAU'S
OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARMER
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ben and Jennifer Moore from the city of Dresden in Weakley County on winning the Tennessee Farm Bureau's Outstanding Young Farmer and Achievement Award this past July 23, 2011. Mr. and Mrs. Moore were selected over 20 excellent county contestants to win the state competition and have a chance to win national honors at the American Farm Bureau's convention early next year.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore farm over 3,400 acres including corn and soybeans and a number of specialty crops. Additionally, they pasture about 80 head cow/calf livestock, and manage a 4,000 sow operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore are also active in The Young Farmers & Ranchers program which promotes leadership skills for farmers ages 18–35. As members of the Program they share a common bond for the agricultural lifestyle, leadership development, and are dedicated to meeting the challenges of farming and ranching. Ben served as the YF&R state committee chairman, was a member of the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation's Board of Directors, and has held numerous county and leadership positions. Jennifer is a member of the Tennessee Pork Producers Association, and is active on YF&R committees and other community organizations. The Moore's dedication, service, and significant contributions to their community and agriculture should make all Tennesseans proud. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have three sons, Miller, Tate, and Tyler. I congratulate them all.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTH-
DAY OF REV. JOSEPH LOWERY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birthday of the Reverend Joseph Lowery, one of the single most important leaders of the modern civil rights movement; and a close confidant of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Reverend Lowery was born in Huntsville, Alabama on October 6th, 1921. He and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. formed the Southern Leadership Conference, which was the hub of the civil rights movement in the 1960's. In addition to being the co-founder of the SCLC, Rev.